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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/638,779	08/15/2000	Ralph D. Leisle	16705-4906	1257
21888	7590	05/18/2006	EXAMINER	
THOMPSON COBURN, LLP ONE US BANK PLAZA SUITE 3500 ST LOUIS, MO 63101			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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09/638779

08/15/2000

RALPH D. LEISLE

16705-4906

EXAMINER

ELLA COLBERT

ART UNIT

PAPER

3624

09638779

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

Response to Applicant's Appeal Brief

The Appeal Brief dated 08/04/04 is not in compliance *because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): the Applicant did not file a Notice of Appeal prior to filing an Appeal Brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.20(b)(1) and (b)(2) and 37 CFR 41.31 and 41.37. Applicant is respectfully requested to submit the Notice of Appeal with any required fees. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, Applicants' are given a time period of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. Extensions of this time period maybe granted under 37 CFR 1.136(a).*

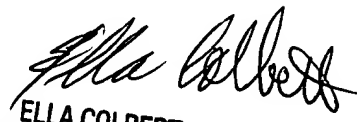
This action is **NON-FINAL**. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ella Colbert whose telephone number is 571-272-6741. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Thursday, 6:30AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on 571-272-6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3624

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

May 13, 2006


ELLA COLBERT
PRIMARY EXAMINER